

**From:** WolfWings/Rhenthar/Mneumenth/etc  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 3:58pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

I have serious problems with the suggested settlement as currently published. Many of the terms have been defined so narrowly that Microsoft could well avoid the supposed restrictions entirely.

The failure to require advanced notification of possibly drastic changes in the Windows operation system structure and design also makes the supposed 'restrictions' which require disclosure of API's and other information to allow compatable software to be written for much of the operating system allows Microsoft to use their 'current' system, and publish information on it, while designing a secondary, incompatable system, and suddenly releasing it as the 'final version' and breaking all the existing middleware. This again, defeats the entire purpose of the settlement restrictions.

The fact that patents are not properly addressed is another problem I have with the settlement as published. The failure to require disclosure at the very least of which patents apply to the Windows Operation System, removes any use of any 'compatability' information, because implementing it, could end up being illegal due to patent infringement.

I'm sure you've recieved many well-worded, and much longer-winded comments about the settlement, but these are the two largest problems I have with it currently. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Sincerely,

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